

Mike Reed

Pastor

Mike has served as the Missional Strategist for Community Engagement with First Coast Churches since February, 2018. Mike Reed has over 58 years of ministry experience in a variety of roles. He has served as a church staff member or pastor of churches in Florida, Mississippi, and North Carolina. In 1980, he and Carolyn, his late wife, founded Toccoa Wilderness Ministries, a Christian outdoor adventure program. He served as director of TWM from 1980 until 2006. In his spare time, he enjoys walking, mountain biking, and watching SEC football.

Our Team - Jones Road Baptist Church | Jacksonville, FL

<https://jonesroadbc.org/our-team/>

Reed, Mike is a native of Tennessee. Reed was ordained in 1964 by Plymouth Baptist Church. He and his wife Carolyn founded Toccoa Wilderness Ministries in Blue Ridge Georgia in 1980. He also served as pastor of Liberty Baptist Church in Turtletown, Tennessee. Reed served as pastor of Bay Ridge Baptist Church, Apoka and San Jose Baptist Church, 2006-2018. He now serves as Missional Strategist for First Coast Churches, 2018-2022 and pastor of Jones Road Baptist Church, Jacksonville.

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A one-time announcement of special events is a free service provided by the Witness to Florida Baptist churches. Please send materials at least three weeks before the date of the event to Florida Baptist Witness, 1226 Hendricks Ave., Jacksonville, FL 32207, Tel: 904-346-0696 or e-mail: nichols@flbaptist.org. Information may be submitted via the Web site: www.FloridaBaptistWitness.com.

BREVARD

Brevard Baptist Association, with offices in Rockledge, has called Gary Gates as director of missions. He most recently served as pastor of Central Baptist Church in Melbourne, and previously served with North Dunedin Baptist Church and First Baptist Church in Largo. He is a graduate of Samford University, Birmingham, Ala., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. He and his wife, Ann, have three children. Gates replaces Harold Brantley, who served as DOM 14 years. Brantley's wife, Jackie, served as his administrative assistant, a position Gates' wife also will fill. The Brantleys will settle in Rockledge after traveling to Australia and Malaysia.

FLORIDA

Antioch Baptist Church in

Tallahassee will host a community-wide Fun Day July 29, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. The event will include carnival games, inflatable games, horseback rides, music and food. For more information, call 850-576-7315.

JACKSONVILLE

San Jose Baptist Church has called Mike Reed as pastor. He previously served as the congregation's interim teaching pastor. He also served as senior pastor and staff pastor in several central and south Florida churches before founding Toccoa Wilderness Ministries in Blue Ridge, Ga., in 1980 with his wife, Carolyn. While serving with TWM, the Tennessee native served as pastor of Liberty Baptist Church in Turtletown, Tenn. Cedar Creek Baptist Church will host tenor Larry Ford in concert Aug. 13., 10:15 a.m. He is a featured performer on the Gaither Homecoming tour. For more information, call 904-781-9151.



REED

LAKE COUNTY

Randall Lynn Rouse, coordinator of volunteers for Florida Baptist Disaster Relief, died July 16 at Lake Wales Baptist Conference Center in Austis. He was 69. A retired letter carrier with the U.S. Postal Service, Rouse also volunteered with Campers on Mission and Carpenters for Christ. He is survived by his wife of 50 years,

Jean; daughter, Debra Roderick; sons, Daniel, Dennis and David; four grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

MARION

First Baptist Church in Summerfield will host a gospel music concert Oct. 5 featuring River Jordan and Soul Purpose. The concert will begin at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call 352-245-2369. Trinity Baptist Church in Ocala will host Gold City in concert Aug. 6 at 6 p.m. For more information, call 352-694-2163.

NEW RIVER

Evergreen Baptist Church in Lawley has scheduled its second annual "Hot Summer Nights" Thursdays in August. Speakers include Aug. 3, Jim Snell, pastor of Lake Hill Baptist Church in Keystone Heights; Aug. 10, David Beauchamp, pastor of Crescent Beach Baptist Church, St. Augustine; Aug. 17, Herb Reavis, pastor of North Jacksonville Baptist Church; Aug. 24, John Sullivan, director-treasurer of the Florida Baptist Convention; Aug. 31, evangelist Randy Lamb. Services will begin at 7:15 p.m. For more information, call 904-782-3717.

RIDGE

First Baptist Church in Lake Alfred will honor Pastor Rocky Branch July 30 on his 10th anniversary with the church. A special evening worship

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service will begin at 6:30 p.m. Branch and his wife, Janice, have two children.

SEMINOLE

Central Baptist Church in Sanford will host a Women's Mini-Conference Aug. 11-12. Speaker and guest musician for the event are Margaret Kay Tucker and Christie Helton, both of Jacksonville. For registration information, call 407-322-2914 or go to www.cbcsanford.org.

SOUTH FLORIDA

Griffin Baptist Church in Lakeland has called Wade Lipham as minister of music. He has served in a similar position with several churches in South Florida Baptist Association. He and his wife, Mary, are natives of Lakeland.

SUWANNEE

The Pregnancy Crisis Center in Live Oak will host a Bible study beginning Aug. 1 for women who have had an abortion. The study will focus on *Forgiven and Set Free*, a book by Linda Cockran. Pre-registration is required. For more information, call 386-330-2229. All calls are confidential.

Stone: Evangelist dies in Tenn. at 72

From Page 4

ministry partner, collegian Sean Reece, were driving to speak at the evening service at College Heights Baptist Church in Gallatin, Tenn., just north of Nashville, July 16 when Stone became unconscious and later was pronounced dead.

Stone's previous three walks across America included a 3,650-mile trek in 1996 from the Capitol steps in Washington southward to Jacksonville, and westward to Los Angeles; a 3,550-mile trek in 1998 from the mayor's office in San Francisco eastward to Virginia Beach, Va.; and a 1,700-mile, south to north trek in 2000 that began in Nueva Laredo, Mexico, and ended in Detroit at the Ambassador Bridge leading into Canada.

Stone is survived by his wife, Anne Fuller Stone, three daughters, Ellen Sichina of Shelby, N.C.; Carole Doll and Lisa Hilliard, both of Apex, N.C.; and five grandchildren.

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This, That and the Other

Plymouth Church Ordains Reed to Gospel Ministry



Michael W. Reed, pastor of Bay Ridge Church, Plymouth, was ordained to the Gospel ministry by Plymouth Church, Plymouth on May 31.

Howard L. Long, host pastor, was moderator of the council of ministers and deacons from Welkwa Association. B. D. Locke, field secretary for the Florida Baptist Convention, led the questioning.

Robert Murphy, First Church, Lockhart, preached the ordination sermon; Harwood Steele, Riverside Church, Orlando, gave the charge to the candidate and church; Albert Stulch, former interim pastor of the host church, led the ordination prayer; and Mrs. Mary Sanders, sister of the candidate, sang the hymn of dedication.

New Pastor at Alachua

First Church, Alachua welcomed Carl Franklin as pastor on June 14.

For the past five years, Franklin has served churches in the Pensacola Bay Association. He has served churches in Alabama, Mississippi and Florida for 15 years. He is also a chalk artist.

The Franklins have three children.

Red Level Church, Crystal River will observe Homecoming on June 28, which is the 70th anniversary of the church. Pastor O. C. Anderson invites former pastors, members and friends to attend the special services and basket dinner.

Athens Church, Lake City will observe Homecoming on June 28 with S. F. Beard of Tampa as guest speaker. Pastor Paul Mikell invites former pastors, members and friends to the special services and basket dinner.

Coleman Accepts Call to Southside Church, Lakeland

T. Rupert Coleman resigned as pastor of University Church, Coral Gables on June 7 to accept the pastorate of Southside Church, Lakeland.

A native of North Carolina, Dr. Coleman is an alumnus of Wake Forest College and Duke University, and holds a Doctor of Philosophy degree from Southern Seminary. He went to University Church from a 22-year pastorate at Ginter Park Church, Richmond, Va.

During Coleman's ministry, University Church had 1577 additions and erected the Chapel Wing of its plant. Gateway Church was constituted as a daughter-church in March, 1963.

Coleman is a past moderator of Miami Baptist Association, and for six years he was a trustee of Miami Baptist Hospital. He is a member of the Board of Directors for the Children's Service Bureau of Dade County, a trustee of Stetson University, vice president of the Directors for the Christian Freedom Foundation, Inc. of New York, and a member of the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention. He has been active in the South Florida Council of Boy Scouts of America and this year was awarded the Silver Beaver.

Dr. and Mrs. Coleman and their son, Larry Knight, a senior at the University of Richmond, will move to Lakeland in July.

Cutler Ridge Church Builds

First Church, Cutler Ridge has just completed and dedicated new education facilities. Included in the building program was the renovation of the old building. Total expenditure for construction, renovation, paved parking lots and equipment was \$72,000.

The new building provides space for the following departments: two Junior, two Intermediate, and one Primary, plus a suite of offices. The church can now house 600 in Sunday school. Present Sunday school attendance is about 350.

Cutler Ridge, which was sponsored as a mission of Central Church, Miami, was constituted into a church in September, 1962. John Cooper has been pastor since October, 1961.

Panasoffkee Calls Pastor

Gary Lightfoot, from Union City, Ala., became pastor of Panasoffkee Church, Panasoffkee on June 7.

Eilbert C. Tyner, director of Stetson University's Extension Division and Church Relations, was interim pastor at Panasoffkee.

Oneco Church Dedicates \$32,000 Education Building

First Church, Oneco dedicated a new education building on May 17. Guest speakers were John H. Whitt, field secretary for District 11; and Frank T. Anderson, pastor of First Church, Bradenton and moderator of Southwest Florida Association.

The building, which is 42' x 100' plus an eight-foot covered walk, was built at a cost of \$32,000 and houses four nursery departments, three other departments, kitchen, dining room and two offices.

Serving on the building and planning committee were: Chairman Roy Hollowell, Mrs. Lewis Douglas, Mrs. Roy Johnson, L. L. Goodman and Laurence DeSear.

The building is the second in a series of six units of a long-range building program adopted in 1958. W. Arnold Shower has been pastor since 1957.

Miami Choir Makes Tour

Forty-six members of the Chapel Choir from Central Church, Miami left on June 11 for a ten-day singing tour and trip to the World's Fair. The choir, under the direction of Kenneth Osbrink, will be singing in five churches.

Dr. Cornell Goerner, secretary for Africa, Europe and the Near East, addressed the group and escorted them on a tour of the Foreign Mission Board offices in Richmond, Va. on June 15.

The Witness has received a copy of resolutions from Ridge Baptist Association addressed to the Executive Committee of Harmony Association commending to their fellowship Hayes B. Davis, the new pastor of Pine Grove Church, and expressing appreciation for his six-year ministry in Eastside Church, Auburndale.

Stetson Alumnus New Dean At Philippine College of Law

An outstanding Stetson University alumnus, John Orendain of Manila, Philippines, has been named dean of the College of Law at Central Philippine University, Iloilo City, according to Joe T. Howard, president.

Orendain was graduated from Stetson in 1928 and was a classmate of Stetson President J. Ollie Edmunds. He is a widely-known Manila lawyer and a former representative to the United Nations.

Baptist Bible Institute has enrolled 36 for the 1964 summer school, including two women. Thirty-three students are enrolled for pastoral training, two for religious education, and one is a music major.

Florida has the most students, with 17. Alabama has seven, Georgia eight, South Carolina three, and Louisiana one.

The new reading clinic, directed by Professor Martin V. McKinstler, has 23 students, divided into two sections. In the clinic students use special new equipment to speed up their reading, and a textbook to increase their recognition and use of words.

The Witness office has received a copy of resolutions from Florida Association commending Ellis B. Turner, who resigned as pastor of First Church, Monticello to become field secretary of District Four. The resolution states: "Bro. Turner has, at all times, lived his faith before all men. His dedication to Christ, his love for his fellowman, and his humble walk have always marked him as a true man of God."

Harry J. Usher has completed seven years as pastor of North Hialeah Church, Hialeah. The church has had 1380 additions during this time.

Wabasso Pastor Baptizes 95-Year-Old George Perry



Pastor E. A. McGriff (right) of First Church, Wabasso recently baptized 95-year-old George I. Perry, who made his profession of faith on April 19.

Jacksonville Pastor takes on new Associational role Florida Baptist Witness online

- Jacksonville Pastor takes on new Associational role

Written By: Nicole Kalil January 25, 2018

Tags: [Jacksonville Baptist Association](#), [Mike Reed](#), [Rick Wheeler](#), [San Jose Baptist Church](#)

[San Jose Baptist Church](#) Pastor [Mike Reed](#) is leaving the church he has pastored for the past 11½ years to tackle a newly created role at the [Jacksonville Baptist Association](#) at a time in his life when many start to downshift their ministry activities.

“He’s re-firing, not retiring,” said JBA’s Lead Missional Strategist Rick Wheeler.

Reed will serve as JBA’s Missional Engagement Strategist, a new position to oversee a new strategy to connect pastors within the same geographical area in [Jacksonville](#) for maximum Gospel impact.

Mike Reed addresses Jacksonville Baptist Association pastors and leadership .

“I’m going to be connecting with pastors and hopefully build hubs of cooperating and collaborating churches in specific zones in Jacksonville,” Reed said of his new mission.

At 74 years old, Reed is nowhere near ready to step out of ministry and into retirement. And while he said he knows the new position won’t be easy, he feels like the job was tailor-made for him.

“In some ways I don’t think like a 74 year old although I have the aches and pains of one,” Reed quipped. “This role really connects with my heart.”

Wheeler has been impressed with Reed’s desire to not only take on a new challenge but also be excited for the opportunity.

To other Baby Boomer pastors getting close to retirement age, Wheeler says: “Don’t get out of the game!

Wheeler said the example of people like Reed and others he’s known who enter the next phase of ministry rather than retire is an encouragement to himself and others to continue to press on.

Reed said while he is excited about his new position, he is also excited to see what God has in store for San Jose Baptist Church.

But his excitement is tempered with some sadness at leaving a church family he has come to love.

“It will be very emotional because we love these people,” Reed said of the congregation. “It would be much easier if there was anger but there’s not.”

By Nicole Kalil, Florida Baptist Convention, January 25, 2018

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: bio information

Date: 2026-03-12 16:52

From: Michael <mike.jrbc@gmail.com>

To: society2@floridabaptisthistory.org

I pastored San Jose Baptist Church, Jacksonville, from June 2006 until January 2018. I also served as Missional Strategist with First Coast Churches formerly the Jacksonville Baptist Association) from February 2018 until December 2022.

<

On Tue, Mar 10, 2026 at 9:07 AM <society2@floridabaptisthistory.org> wrote:

> On 2026-03-09 21:05, Michael wrote:

>> By the way, I am no longer pastor of Jones Road. I have "retired" as of February 15, 2026.

>>

>> On Mon, Mar 9, 2026 at 9:02 PM Michael <mike.jrbc@gmail.com> wrote:

>>

>>> Thanks Penny. That is me.

>>>

>>> There is one little change. I was ordained on May 31, 1964, by Plymouth Baptist Church. I was the pastor of Bay Ridge Baptist Church outside Apopka, Florida at the time. Plymouth was my home church where I was a member as a teenager.

>>>

>>> Blessings!

>>>

>>> Mike Reed

>>>

>>> On Mon, Mar 9, 2026 at 11:57 AM

>>> <society2@floridabaptisthistory.org> wrote:

>>>

>>>> Bro. Reed,

>>>> I work with the Florida Baptist Historical Society. We have done a bio

>>>> for our website using the Jones Road BC church website and an article

>>>> from the FBC news page, dated January, 2018. I found while doing some

>>>> other research and article from the Florida Baptist Witness dated
>>>> June
>>>> 18, 1964 where a Michael W. Reed was ordained by and served as
>>>> pastor of
>>>> Plymouth Baptist Church. can you tell me are you the same Michael
>>>> Reed?
>>>> If so I will update your bio to reflect this information if not I
>>>> will
>>>> have a new Michael Reed to add to our website.
>>>> Thank you
>>>> Penny
>>>> --
>>>> Penny Baumgardner
>>>> Administrative Ministry Assistant
>>>> Florida Baptist Historical Society
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>>>> Graceville, FL 32440
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>> Mike Reed
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>> 904.786.0646
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> Mike,
> Thank you for this updated info. did you serve as pastor of any other
> churches?
> Penny

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